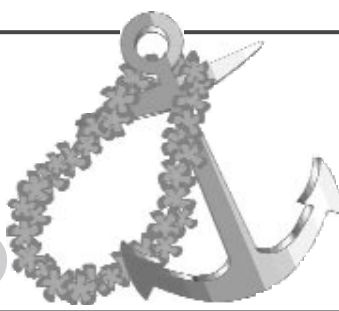


# Hawaii Navy News



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Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

March 10, 2000

## IN BRIEF

### Nimitz Gate to Close

The Pearl Harbor Naval Station Nimitz Gate will be closed to incoming and outgoing traffic on March 11-12 while a Navy Public Works Center, Pearl Harbor contractor performs maintenance, on an existing sewer line that runs along South Avenue. Work will begin on Saturday, March 11 at 7 a.m. and will be complete by Monday, March 13 at 5 a.m.

Personnel requiring access to Naval Station will need to use the Makalapa Gate off of Radford Drive and Kamehameha Highway during the closure.

For more information, please call the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 471-0281.

### Silver Dolphin Bistro Galley hours

The hours for the Silver Dolphin Bistro are Monday through Friday Breakfast 6:15-7:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-noon, Dinner 4:15-5:30 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays Breakfast is at 6:30-7:30 a.m., Brunch 10:30a.m. - 12:30p.m., Dinner 4:30-5:30 p.m.

### CNRH Flag driver needed

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) is soliciting applications for candidates to serve six months as CNRH flag driver. This is a unique opportunity for junior enlisted to observe first hand the dynamic day-to-day operations of a flag officer, an opportunity normally reserved for more senior personnel.

Interested personnel (E4/E5 preferred) should submit a special request chit through their chain of command to the CNRH flag aide by March 22. Candidates must possess a valid drivers license and have an excellent driving record. Additionally, candidates must have outstanding military bearing and excellent character, and be highly motivated. This duty should be of particular value to Sailors interested in programs leading to commissioned service.

For more information or to submit applications, call Lt. Cmdr. Mark Rzepczynski, CNRH flag aide, at 473-0314 or 474-4755.

## See also...



Manoa Falls offers Sailors, families a great get-a-way close by ...B-1

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# Ohana Conference ends, action begins

By J01 Gerard Sekerak

NAVY REGION HAWAII

**A**FTER reviewing reams of data with only two days to work, delegates offered up the Navy Ohana's top quality of life issues Friday, March 3 to fellow attendees of the Ohana Conference 2000.

Approximately 150 delegates representing Navy commands on Oahu reviewed and prioritized more than 16,000 comments resulting from the on-line Ohana quality of life survey offered on the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii web site Jan. 21 to Feb.21.

"The participation in this year's Ohana survey was incredible," said Sharleen Proctor, Ohana Conference 2000 coordinator. "This is what Ohana is all about, voices being heard so positive change can occur."

In fact, due to this year's web-based survey's easy access from work or home computers, and the fact that it was completely anonymous, over 3,000 participants provided information towards improving the quality of life for the Navy Ohana in Hawaii compared to 700 in 1998.

Delegates formed seven working groups to wade through the mountain of materials. During the two-day conference, which ran March 1-2 at the Naval Shipyard Training Facilities. The groups were assigned up to four functional areas dealing with quality of life, such as housing, security, and family services, and were tasked to identify up to three top issues in each area and recommend improvements.

For example, some top issues identified included improving the effectiveness and expanding the availability of services at the Family Service Center and Personnel Support Detachment Pearl Harbor.

▼ See OHANA, A-7



J02 Greg Cleghorne photo

Group Six delegates Tara Jones and Brian Rosa tally votes on their group's Ohana Conference issues. The group discussed ways to improve military and civilian working conditions, improve off-duty education and base facilities.

## Technology makes Ohana survey big hit

By J01 Gerard Sekerak

NAVY REGION HAWAII

If you measure the success of a party by the number of guests who show up at the front door, you could say participants of this year's Navy Ohana quality of life survey filled the house.

In fact, over 3,006 members of the Navy Ohana in

Hawaii took advantage of the new on-line survey compared to 700 who made their feelings known in 1998.

"The on-line survey was an overwhelming success," said Sharleen Proctor, Navy Region Hawaii Ohana project coordinator. "People took advantage of letting their feelings be known, which validates the

need for our Ohana program."

Proctor said there was no Ohana survey in 1999 to provide more time to create the "new" survey. In fact, Navy Region Hawaii hired a contractor to create and implement the online web survey. Moving the survey and subsequent conference from Nov. 1999 to Mar. 2000 also allowed the

Ohana program to align better with the annual budget cycle and business plan.

"This means the Navy Region Hawaii community can expect to see resolution to the lower cost or no cost issue proposals from the Ohana 2000 conference much sooner during this fiscal or calendar year,"

▼ See TECHNOLOGY, A-7

## SMART program proves successful

By J03 Brenda Diggs

HNN EDITOR

More than a year ago, a concerned lieutenant realized local school kids were in trouble. Local schools were having trouble filling the after-school void many children face. Lt. Joe Ring, Surface Group Middle Pacific, decided he was going to help fill that void. He developed a Sailors Mentoring and Reaching Teens (SMART) program to help students avoid the many dangerous and menacing activities that can take place during after school hours; activities that often times lack adult supervision and interaction.

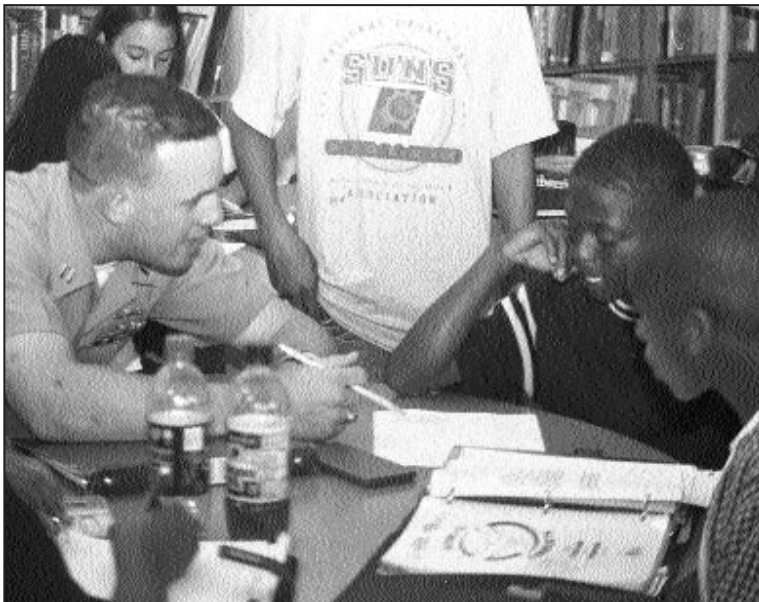
Ring put into action five tutor-mentor groups that serve as guidelines for the program. The five groups are:

- Get Real, Get Smart, which will help students identify, clarify and develop working solutions to solve difficulties caused by many of the social issues facing teenagers.

- Just Say No, Say More, which will equip students with the knowledge and courage to rise up against the pressure of alcohol, drug and nicotine abuse.

- Don't Get Mad, Get Smart, will il-

▼ See SMART, A-10



J03 Brenda Diggs photo

Lt. Joe Ring(left), Surface Group Middle Pacific, helps Lamar Williams (center) and Lamar Allen (right), both 7th graders at Aliamanu Intermediate School, with their homework. Ring developed the SMART program, which is an after school program that fills the void between school and the hours that may lack adult supervision.

## BAH adjustment great news for Sailors

Navy Wire Service

**S**ECRETARY of Defense William S. Cohen recently announced that service members who are receiving less allowance for housing than their shipmates of equal pay-grade due to the recent Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) adjustment will have their BAH rates raised to the 1999 levels.

This will affect those Sailors and Marines in areas where the 2000 BAH rates were reduced below last year's levels.

Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jay L. Johnson both praised the quick change.

"We worked very hard to get this fixed quickly for our Sailors and Marines," said the SECNAV. "Improving quality of life for military families is at the top of everyone's priority list, and this quick solution puts our money where our mouth is. While we can't pay Sailors enough for the sacrifices they make every day, providing them with the best possible housing is one way to compensate them for their service."

The new rates took effect March 1 and officials are hopeful Sailors will see the adjustment in their March15 pay checks.

The Department of Defense has announced that it will propose to Congress to have the change retro active to Jan. 1, 2000. The driving issue for the decision to implement the change was fairness for service members.

The Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. Norb Ryan Jr., said that as he was visiting the fleet, he heard loud and clear the frustrations Sailors were feeling in places such as Norfolk, Pensacola and the Northwest.

"This needed to be fixed, and fixed quickly," Ryan said.

"Fixing the BAH adjustment puts money directly into Sailors' pockets, and that's one of the best ways to help Navy families. More compensation and the recognition that their leaders recognize their needs and efforts are more reasons for Sailors to 'Stay Navy'."

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, MM-CM(SS/SW/AW) Jim Herdt was thrilled about the change.

"I think it's fantastic! This is a perfect example of our leadership aggressively responding to the outcry of Sailors for what they deserve. I couldn't be more happy, and I hope Sailors will be just as excited."